

Serial No. 10/092,463

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please CANCEL claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer and AMEND claims 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 16 and 17 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A search system for searching design asset information to find information, which a user has privilege to access and which is requested by the user, the search system comprising:

a first memory that stores the design asset information;

a processor that accesses the first memory to retrieve design asset information that the user has privilege to access from the design asset information stored in the first memory; and

a second memory that stores a session database in which the retrieved design asset information is collected, wherein the session database is generated when the user starts a session and is deleted when the session is terminated, and wherein the search system searches information requested by the user from the session database,

wherein

the first memory includes a first database for collecting the design asset information and a second database for collecting access control information used to set access privileges to the design asset information,

the processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the first database and generates the session database by collecting the privileged information,

the session database is generated when the user starts a session based on the first database and the second database,

the session database stores only the retrieved design asset information that the user has privilege to access, and

the processor is programmed to access only the session database when the user conducts a search.

2. (Cancelled)

Serial No. 10/092,463

3. (Currently Amended) The search system according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein the access control information includes information of access privilege groups for setting the access privileges to the design asset information and information for defining at least one of the access privilege groups to which the user belongs, and wherein the session database is generated for each of the access privilege groups.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The search system according to ~~claim 2~~claim 1, further comprising:
at least one server including the first database, the second database, and the session database; and
at least one client computer connected to the server through a network,
wherein the user inputs a search query in the client computer, the client computer sends the search query to the server, the server acquires design asset information that matches the search query from the session database, and the server provides the acquired design asset information to the client computer.

6. (Original) The search system according to claim 5, wherein the design asset information is IP catalogue information that includes management information, substantial data, and category classification information of IP catalogues, wherein the processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the management information, the substantial data, and the category classification information of IP catalogues, which the user has privilege to access, and wherein the third database includes a first retrieved information database for collecting the retrieved management information, a second retrieved information database for collecting the retrieved substantial data, and a third retrieved information database for collecting the retrieved category classification information.

7. (Original) The search system according to claim 6, wherein the server searches the first retrieved information database for the management information of IP catalogues that match the search query of the user and provides the management information of the matched IP catalogues to the client computer.

Serial No. 10/092,463

8. (Original) The search system according to claim 6, wherein the server searches the second retrieved information database for the substantial data of IP catalogues that match the search query of the user and provides the substantial data of the matched IP catalogues to the client computer.

9. (Original) The search system according to claim 6, wherein the server searches the third retrieved information database for the category classification information of IP catalogues that match the search query of the user and provides the category classification information of the matched IP catalogues to the client computer.

10. (Currently Amended) A system for searching design asset information comprising:
at least one server computer; and
at least one client computer connected to the at least one server computer, wherein the server computer includes:

a first memory that stores the design asset information; and

a processor that accesses the first memory to retrieve design asset information that a user has privilege to access from the design asset information stored in the first memory and generates a session database of the retrieved privileged design asset information when the user logs into the server computer from the client computer, wherein the session database is deleted when the user logs out from the server computer, and wherein, when the user inputs a search query in the client computer and sends the search query to the server computer, the server computer searches the session database for privileged design asset information that matches the users query and provides the matched privileged information to the client computer,

wherein

the first memory includes a first database for collecting the design asset information and a second database for collecting access control information used to set access privileges to the design asset information.

the processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the first database and generates the session database by collecting the privileged information.

the session database is generated when the user starts a session based on the first database and the second database.

the session database stores only the retrieved design asset information that the user has privilege to access, and

Serial No. 10/092,463

the processor is programmed to access only the session database when the user conducts a search.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The search system according to claim 10, wherein the user belongs to at least one group, and wherein the privileged information is information, which the group the user belongs to has privilege to access.

13. (Previously Presented) The search system according to claim 10, wherein the first memory includes an original database for collecting the design asset information and a control database for collecting access control information of the design asset information, and wherein the processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the original database.

14. (Original) The search system according to claim 13, wherein each piece of the design asset information includes an index and substantial data, and wherein the control database includes a definition database defining a group to which the user belongs, a catalogue access privilege database defining groups having privilege to access the index, and a substantial data access privilege database defining groups having privilege to access the substantial data.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for searching design asset information stored in a memory, the method comprising:

retrieving design asset information that a user has privilege to access from the design asset information stored in the memory to generate a session database in which the retrieved privileged design asset information is collected, when the user logs into a server computer from at least one client computer;

searching the session database, when the user inputs a search query through the client computer, for the privileged design asset information that matches the search query;

providing the matched privileged design asset information to the client computer; and

deleting the session database when the user logs out from the server computer,

wherein

the memory includes a first database for collecting the design asset information

Serial No. 10/092,463

and a second database for collecting access control information used to set access privileges to the design asset information.

a processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the first database and generates the session database by collecting the privileged information.

the session database is generated when the user starts a session based on the first database and the second database.

the session database stores only the retrieved design asset information that the user has privilege to access, and

the processor is programmed to access only the session database when the user conducts a search.

16. (Currently Amended) A program for searching design asset information stored in a memory to run a computer, the program comprising:

retrieving design asset information that a user has privilege to access from the design asset information stored in the memory to generate a session database in which the retrieved privileged design asset information is collected, when the user logs into a server computer from at least one client computer;

searching the session database, when the user inputs a search query through the client computer, for the privileged design asset information that matches the search query;

providing the matched privileged design asset information to the client computer; and deleting the session database when the user logs out from the server computer,

wherein

the memory includes a first database for collecting the design asset information and a second database for collecting access control information used to set access privileges to the design asset information.

a processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the first database and generates the session database by collecting the privileged information.

the session database is generated when the user starts a session based on the first database and the second database.

the session database stores only the retrieved design asset information that the user has privilege to access, and

the processor is programmed to access only the session database when the user

Serial No. 10/092,463

conducts a search.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to search design asset information stored in a memory to run the computer, said program comprising:

retrieving design asset information that a user has privilege to access from the design asset information stored in the memory to generate a session database in which the retrieved privileged design asset information is collected, when the user logs into a server computer from at least one client computer;

searching the session database, when the user inputs a search query through the client computer, for the privileged design asset information that matches the search query;

providing the matched privileged design asset information to the client computer; and

deleting the session database when the user logs out from the server computer,

wherein

the memory includes a first database for collecting the design asset information and a second database for collecting access control information used to set access privileges to the design asset information.

a processor refers to the access control information to retrieve the privileged information from the first database and generates the session database by collecting the privileged information.

the session database is generated when the user starts a session based on the first database and the second database.

the session database stores only the retrieved design asset information that the user has privilege to access, and

the processor is programmed to access only the session database when the user conducts a search.